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1 of 5

**BENDIS
REED
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MORALES**

THE NEW AVENGERS®

ILLUMINATI™



RATED T+



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DIRECT EDITION

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THE NEW AVENGERS ILLUMINATI

The Illuminati is a secret organization comprised of several of the world's most powerful heroes: Sorcerer Supreme Doctor Strange, Black Bolt, King of the Inhumans, Charles Xavier, founder of the X-Men and mutant rights activist, Reed Richards, founding member of the Fantastic Four, Namor the Sub-Mariner, Ruler of Atlantis and Iron Man, founding member of the Avengers.

These six men have worked together to mold and shape the status of the superhuman world and the world around it.

To keep the trust between the group members, the Illuminati's existence is a secret to everyone, including their teammates and families.

How and what they have done together has remained a mystery...until now...



Years ago, a war between the Kree and the Skrulls, two interstellar races of unimaginably advanced technology, raged not only across the stars, but on the surface of the Earth itself.

The mighty Avengers were able to keep the threat at bay, eventually disabling the Skrull attack fleet and bringing the conflict to an end.

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...MY NAME
IS DOCTOR REED
RICHARDS OF THE
EARTH'S FANTASTIC
FOUR.

AND I AM
IRON MAN OF THE
AVENGERS.

I AM
PRINCE NAMOR,
RULER OF
ATLANTIS.

I AM
DOCTOR STEPHEN
STRANGE, MASTER
OF THE MYSTIC
ARTS.

AND I AM
PROFESSOR
CHARLES
XAVIER.

I AM ONE
OF THE "GENETIC
ATROCITIES" YOU
WERE JUST
REFERRING TO...

BESIDE ME
IS BLACK BOLT,
RULER OF THE
INHUMANS.



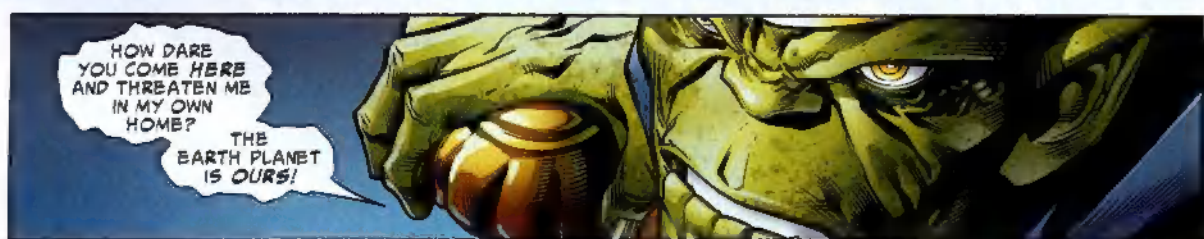
WE CAME
HERE TO TELL YOU
THAT WE WILL NOT
TOLERATE ANOTHER
INVASION ATTEMPT
ON THE EARTH.

IF YOU EVEN SO MUCH AS
APPROACH EARTH SPACE, IT WILL FORCE
US TO GATHER AND COME AT YOU WITH
MANPOWER YOU COULD NOT IMAGINE.



THIS IS A
WARNING.

YOU
COME AT
US EVER
AGAIN, AND
WE'LL COME
AT YOU.



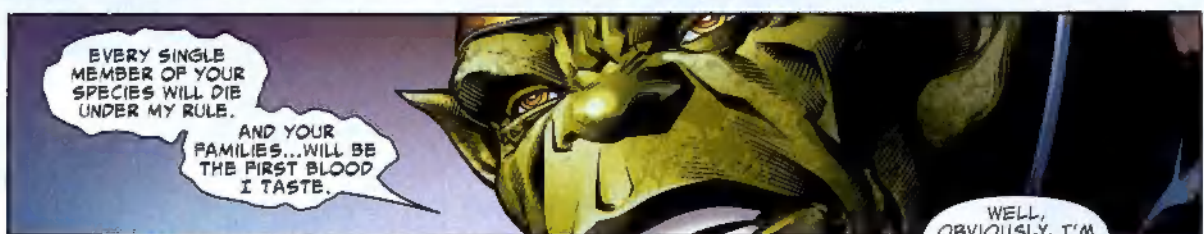
HOW DARE
YOU COME HERE
AND THREATEN ME
IN MY OWN
HOME?

THE
EARTH PLANET
IS OURS!



I'M TELLING
YOU, IT IS NOT
AND NEVER
WILL BE.

DO WE
UNDERSTAND
EACH OTHER?



EVERY SINGLE
MEMBER OF YOUR
SPECIES WILL DIE
UNDER MY RULE.

AND YOUR
FAMILIES... WILL BE
THE FIRST BLOOD
I TASTE.



WELL,
OBVIOUSLY, I'M
SORRY TO HEAR
YOU SAY THAT.

DOCTOR...

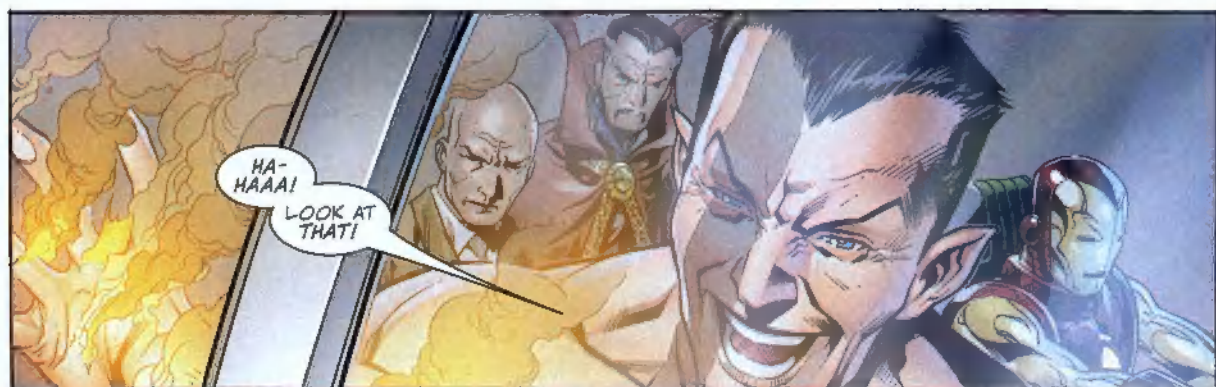
I'M
READY.

BLACK
BOLT, WHAT
DO YOU HAVE
TO SAY?



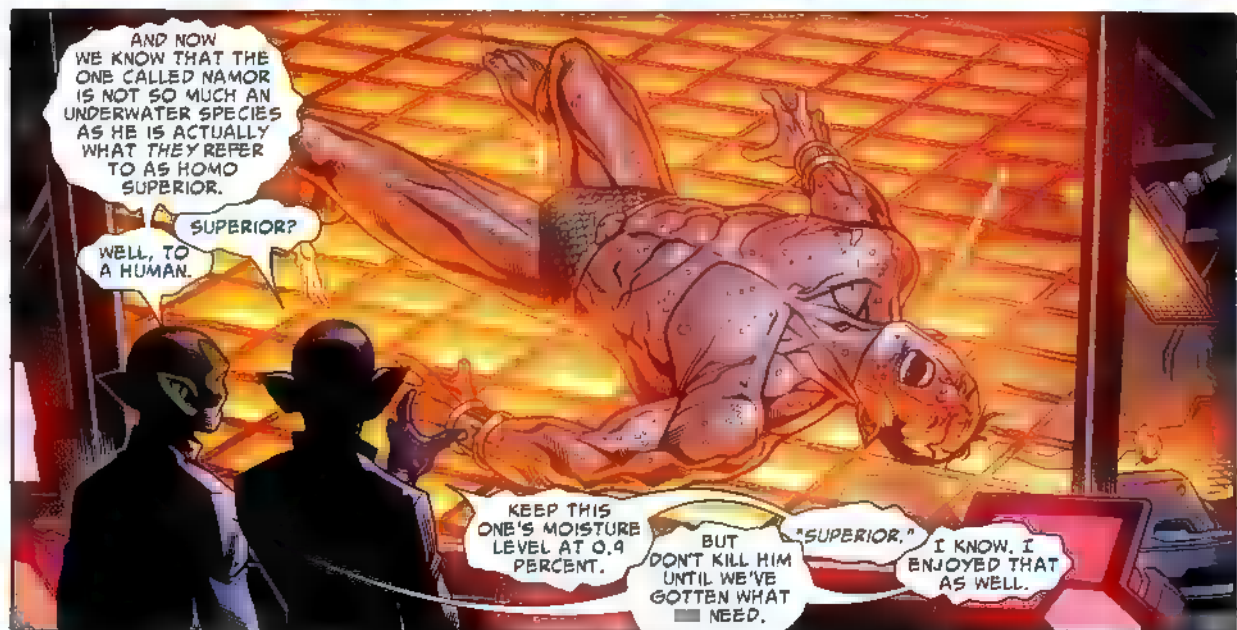
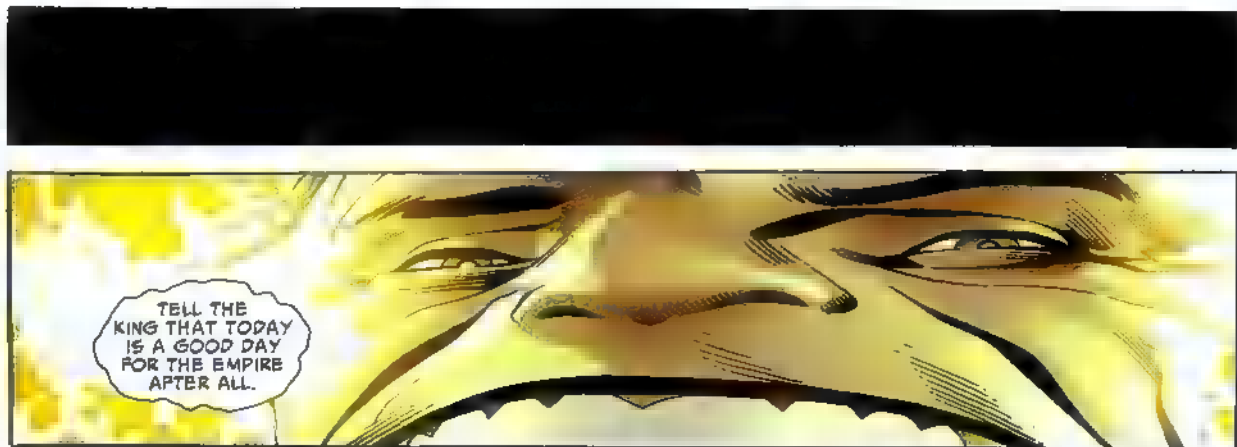














THIS INHUMAN "BLACK BOLT'S" VOCAL CORDS HAVE BEEN IMMOBILIZED.

DID YOU TEAR THEM OUT?

NO.

WE HAVE YET TO DETERMINE HOW HE GENERATES SUCH A DESTRUCTIVE FORCE FROM SOUND WAVES.

TEARING THEM OUT WITHOUT KNOWING WHAT WE'RE DEALING WITH COULD DESTROY THE ENTIRE CITY-STATE.

THESE INHUMANS, THESE KREE-SPAWN, HAVE YOU READ ABOUT THEIR TERRIGEN MISTS?

HIS DEATH WILL BE LOVELY.

IT'S SO PERVERSE.

I'VE INVITED MY FAMILY.



NOW THIS MUTANT HAS PROVED EASIEST TO EXPLORE.

YES.

SINCE WE KNOW THE ORIGIN OF HIS POWERS IS THE MUTANT GENOME--

--BREAKING DOWN HIS DNA BEFORE WE DISSECT HIM IS NO PROBLEM AT ALL.



BUT THIS--THIS SORCERER--

THE MAGICIAN.

THIS CONFOUNDS US. ■ HAD TO CALL ■ THE PRIESTS FROM THE VOVCO ISLANDS. THEY ARE ON THEIR WAY.

THEN WE'LL OPEN HIM UP.

OH YES, RIGHT AFTER.



THE AVENGER IRON MAN--

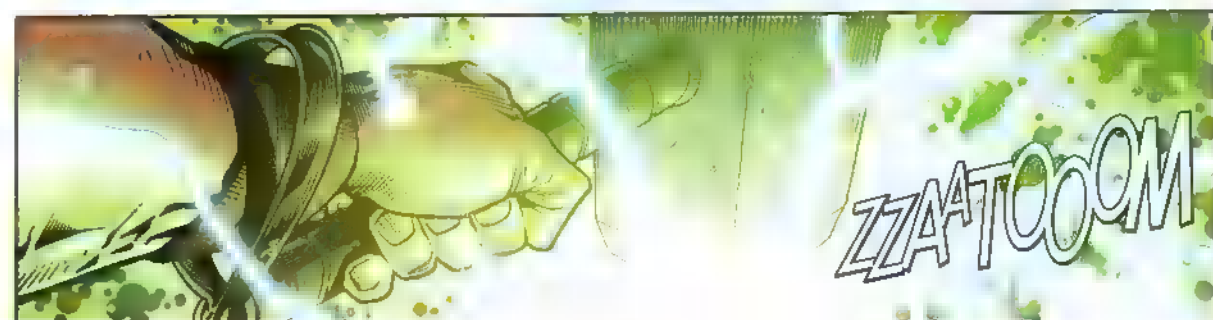
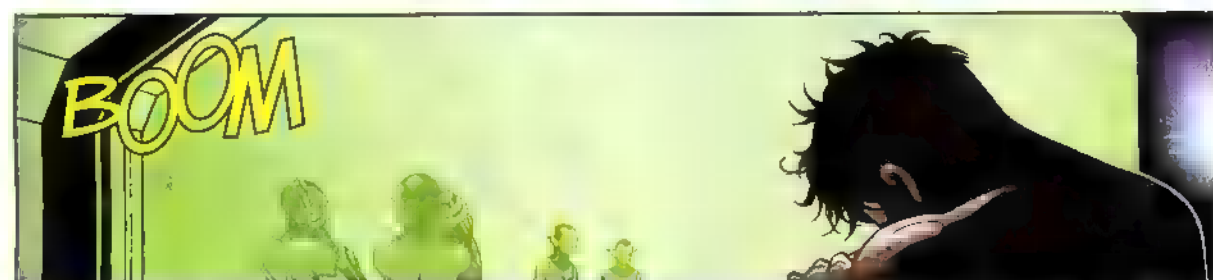
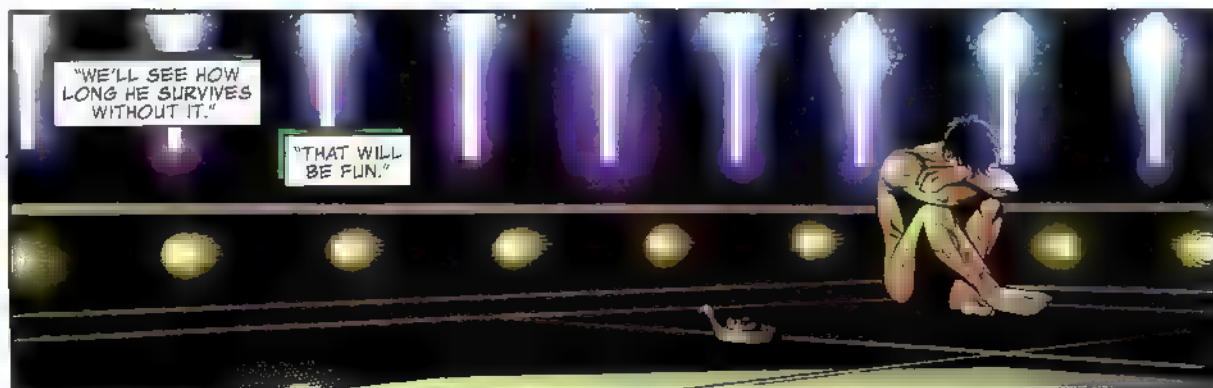
HE IS JUST A FRAGILE, FLACCID HUMAN BEING WHO HAS ENCASED HIMSELF IN A RATHER PRIMITIVE ROBOTIC ARMOR.

WHILE ADVANCED BY HIS OWN CIVILIZATION'S STANDARDS--

--IT IS NOTHING OF CONCERN NOW THAT IT'S BEEN DISMANTLED.

IT'S TO GO ■ THE ROYAL TROPHY ROOM.

THE ONLY INTERESTING ASPECT IS THAT THIS ARMOR WAS KEEPING STARK'S HEART VALVES WORKING.





IRON [REDACTED], IT SEEMS THOU ART IN NEED OF SOME FRIENDLY ASSISTANCE!

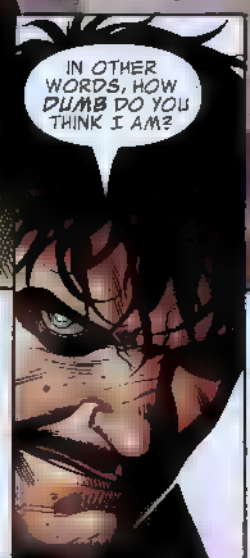
WE'RE HERE TO RESCUE YOU, PAL.

GET UP! WE GOT TO GO...NOW!



REALLY? WOW. YOU KNOW...

...THE PROBLEM WITH THE SKRULL EMPIRE IS, YOU SEEM TO TAKE GREAT PLEASURE IN ALWAYS UNDERESTIMATING YOUR OPPONENTS.



IN OTHER WORDS, HOW DUMB DO YOU THINK I AM?



I TOLD YOU THIS WAS A WASTE OF TIME!

THIS IS NOT THE WAY TO GET INFORMATION FROM HIM. WE HAVE TO DISSECT HIM, AND THAT'S--

NO. NO. WAIT.

THIS IS INTERESTING.

WHY--?

BECAUSE HE--HE DOESN'T EXPECT HIS TEAMMATES TO COME RESCUE HIM.



NO ONE KNOWS THEY CAME HERE.



NO ONE'S COMING TO RESCUE HIM!

AGH!

